MAP OF EUROPE IS ALMOST RECONSTRUCTED NOW

With Repressive Western Barriers the Red Menace Is Under Control, and While There Still Remain Silesia, Austria and the Near East to Block Progress Analysis by Frank H. Simonds Indicates World Is Nearer Peace To-day Than at Any Time Since Armistice

By FRANK H. SIMONDS.

THE closing days of the current month are marked by an anniversary of twofold significance. On June 28, 1914, the Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his consort were slain in Serajevo. On the same day five years later the German representatives signed in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles that treaty which officially marked the close of the German phase of the world war. Two years have passed since the latter event, and as a new anniversary approaches it seems a fitting time to review in some detail the history of what may well be regarded as the final phase of the latest of European settlements.

On June 28, when the Germans signed, the document which received their unwilling signatures did little more than sketch the bases of the real settlement. The frontiers of Germany were fixed, east and west, north and south. Military terms were laid down to carry out the disarmament of the German military establishment and regulate its future strength. The demilitarization of the Rhine and the neutralizing of the left bank were provided for. But beyond these major conditions all was left incomplete, and most incomplete of all were the provisions made for the discharge by Germany of the great debt incurred by her methods of warfare.

Aside from the German phase, moreover, Europe was left in chaos. On June 28 no eastern frontier had been fixed for Poland or for Rumania, order in the west melted into anarchy and chaos in the east with no determined boundaries. The middle of Europe was a hopeless confusion of rival states, fragments of the recently destroyed Hapsburg Empire. The Balkans were in their chronic state of unrest, intensified by nearly seven years of almost uninterrupted fighting. Italy and the southern Slavs were at daggers drawn at the head of the Adriatic. Rumania and Hungary were on the verge of war along the Theiss. Italy and Greece were quarrelling in the Aegean and in Albania.

Two Years Ago Bolshevism Was the Bugbear of the World

Over the whole world at this same date hung the shadow of Russia. Bolshevism had been the nightmare of the Paris Conference; panic after panic had assailed the Paris gatherings as news flowed from the east which seemed to forecast the arrival of the Reds, already come to Budapest, in Berlin, in Bucharest, in Warsaw. Nor was the apprehension as to Germany materially less. The Versailles Treaty had been drafted by those on whom the menace of Germany still weighed heavily, and if Paris dreaded a new extension of Russian revolution it feared almost as acutely some new and terrible outbreak in Germany, which might recall the armies to the battlefield and challenge the results of the armistice of Rethondes.

Now, two years after, when one comes to reconstruct, even to a slight degree, the emotions and the conditions of 1919, it becomes clear what an enormous step has been taken toward settlement. If Germany remains and must in the nature of things continue to remain a problem and a menace, it is no longer possible for reasonable men and women to look for an immediate German uprising, a return of the Kaiser or of the military leaders and a renewal of the war. On the German side we can now safely count upon a span of years in which the world will be safe from any German design.

Nor is it less clear that Bolshevism, anarchy, revolution in Germany has become a remote possibility. Order of a sort has emerged from the chaos which followed the collapse of November, 1918, and led to the revolutions of the following year. Germany has gone back to work. The consequences of defeat abroad and domestic uprising at home have not been entirely dissipated, can hardly be eliminated for decades to come, but the primary peril, the prospect of a Red Germany associated with a Red Russia, has vanished.

Threat of Red Germany Has Disappeared From Politics

That the republican experiment in Germany has been a brilliant success or even a tolerable expedient can hardly be maintained. That there may be a reaction to some monarchical form in the future not distant seems highly probable. German incapacity for self-government of the sort England, France and the United States have developed has been disclosed in striking fashion. But one is still safe in the conclusion that Germany is unlikely to return to the old order and that she is far less likely to follow the Russian example.

Even more heartening has been the Russian development. After two years the press of the world has ceased to reflect apprehensions of a new Bolshevist offensive. The rally of the Poles under the walls of Warsaw has proved as fatal to the imperialistic purposes of the Reds as the battle of Sobieski under the shadow of Vienna was for the Turkish invasion a few centuries ago. If the Reds have succeeded in overcoming Wrangel and thus destroying the last domestic threat to their regime, they have by the Treaty of Riga accepted frontiers which throw them back vast distances from the lines they occupied two years ago.

And this is not all. If one has every reason for mistrusting and suspecting reports coming from Petrograd and Moscow setting forth the change in faith and method of Lenine, it is not less unmistakable that the Bolshevist phenomenon has entered into a new stage. It has ceased to be a conquering fury threatening to sweep over western Europe as Mohammedanism deluged North Africa. It has become a disease limited to Russia, and Russia has become a region with strongly marked western frontiers. Finland, Poland, Rumania have taken form as barriers against the western sweep of the Red gospel and the Red armies.

Peace has brought so many disappointments, the restoration of normal conditions has proceeded at such a slow rate, progress toward the conditions which obtained before the war has been so painfully delayed, that an intense pessimism has taken hold in the minds of masses of men and women. Yet, if one will but take the trouble to look backward over the recent years, to compare today with this day two years ago, it will be seen that the gain has already been enormous, and that, so far as man can judge of the future, the worst is over.

Since the Peace Conference adjourned the world has seen several wars. A year ago the new Poland and the expanded Rumania were both threatened with destruction under the Russian attack. Again and again anarchy has seemed sure to break down the last elements of order from Prague to Salonica and from Vienna to Constantinople, but now, almost on the anniversary of the date when Warsaw was enveloped, peace reigns in all of the Succession states, and aside from two disputes, in Upper Silesia and in Vilna, Europe is at peace at last.

It is true that the settlements of Paris and of the various conferences since Paris have evoked a storm of protest in every direction. Yet it is not less plain that these settlements, already modified in practice have begun to assume an aspect of permanence, which gives promise of permitting the makers of geography to publish new editions. Two years ago the only frontiers in Europe which had been even sketched to express the results of the recent war were those of Germany. To-day there are left but two relatively minor details to be completed, one affecting 5,000 square miles in Upper Silesia, the other 20,000 square miles in the Vilna region.

Three great steps have been taken toward a readjustment. Russian attack has been broken and has subsided. Germany revolution has failed, and the will to revolt has disappeared. Finally, the reparations dispute has had an adjustment which opens the way for final arrangement without conflict. Germany has accepted the obligation to pay what must be regarded as the minimum of possibility, and she has, in fact, begun the payments. And these three circumstances, each in itself, constituted greater obstacles to readjustment than anything remaining.

What, after all, are the problems which to-day block the way to complete readjustment? They are, quite plainly, Upper Silesia, Austria and the Near East. Yet it is already plain that Upper Silesian differences will not lead to general chaos. The troubles are far from ended; Germany, France, Britain and Poland are enmeshed in a dispute which will doubtless fill the press of the world for several weeks to come and may lead to grave incidents. Yet it is no longer conceivable that it will provoke a new invasion of Germany or a new clash between France on the one hand and Italy and Britain on the other. To put the thing simply, the Upper Silesian fire still burns, but it has been isolated, and must at no distant date be put under control.

As for Vilna, it has vanished from the headlines. That Poland may find consolation for disappointments in Silesia in the acquisition of the Polish city of Vilna seems not only reasonable but probable. If Britain and Italy are prepared to support German claims in Upper Silesia, as a detail in what seems in Rome and London a tolerable arrangement with Germany, neither has any keen interest in supporting the Lithuanians, and the Poles always remain in control of Vilna itself.

Austria and Her Future Remain an Open Sore

The situation with respect to Austria is different. Here, after all, is an obvious failure. It is fair to say that no solution of the Polo-German question was possible. The clash between these races is a thousand years old; frontiers have advanced and retreated over centuries. No peace conference could have found a solution which would have been accepted by the Poles and the Germans. The evil of the present arrangement is that it accentuates the old difficulties by facing insoluble rivalries with cheap and inveracious compromises, such as save politicians but doom peace ultimately. But was not the same situation true in the old Austrian Empire?

In any event, the fact is that the Paris conference found Middle Europe in chaos. Three states had sprung into being where one had been before, and in addition vast regions of the old Hapsburg Empire had been occupied by Poles, by Rumanians and by Jugo-Slavs. Frontiers had been drawn without regard to economic necessities or systems of transportation. What had been an economic unit, although an ethnic patchwork, had become an economic nightmare, with ethnic rivalries still surviving.

To-day Austria clamors for admission to Germany. Hungary turns east, west, north and south, passionately demanding the return of her lost provinces. Czecho-Slovakia has become a new Switzerland, all the ways to the sea and the outside world in alien and hostile hands, threatened with partition between Germany and Hungary, doomed if Austrian demands should lead in a future remote or near to the extension of German frontiers to Vienna and Gratz.

The simple fact is that the single really stable arrangement in all of the country from Prague to Athens and from the Adriatic to the Dniester would be an economic, if not a political, union. Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary, Jugo-Slavia, Rumania, Greece and Bulgaria, each is an important detail in such a federation. Failing this, nothing is more certain than that ever increasing anarchy and rivalry will hold out fresh promise to German aspiration and lead directly to a renewal of German efforts to create that Mitteleuropa which is the basis of all German political thought. The German challenge to Britain has ended in disaster and can hardly be renewed. German rivalry with France is not necessarily permanent, unless France mounts guard on the Vistula, but German ambition on the Danube can be abolished only if she confronts some solid barrier to the south.

But this political aspect is in any event a question for the future. It is the economic problem in Middle Europe which is immediate and constitutes the gravest barrier to prompt restoration of economic stability. Left to itself, Austria is impossible; it must be annexed by Germany or find some fashion of associating itself with the Hungarian and Bohemian fractions of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire. It must also find some adjustment of its relations with Italy which will insure it access to the sea through Trieste, or with Jugo-Slavia which will enable it to import through Fiume.

For two years political questions have dominated all else in the discussion of the European settlement. The frontiers which have been drawn have been drawn with regard to lines of racial parting rather than of communications. The market and the field have been separated. Cities have found their waterworks and railway station assigned to one nation and their business quarters to another, as happened in the case of Teschen. Trunk lines of railways, links in the chains which connect Calais with Constantinople and Milan with Moscow, have been transformed into independent lines, beginning and ending at new frontiers, and passengers have been called upon to change cars at each of these innumerable boundaries. This spells paralysis for the movement of freight and something approximating prohibition for passenger traffic.

What is most promising in the European situation to-day is found in the fact that the political questions are disappearing, or at least taking secondary position. We have escaped war over the frontiers of Italy and Jugo-Slavia, Rumania and Hungary, Russia and Rumania, and the conflict between Poland and Russia has led to a definite settlement which has stood the test of many months. Franco-German disputes have led not to new invasions but to an adjustment which promises to give temporary cessation of trouble along the Rhine. The map of Europe is almost reconstructed and the unfinished details are insignificant as compared with the problems which have been disposed of.

Leaving Out Russia, Map of Europe Is Reconstructed

Certainly the Russian problem is far from final settlement. War between Poland and Germany in the future is well nigh certain, not because the present settlement between the two countries is markedly unfair but because no real settlement was possible. In the end central European conditions must lead either to a Danubian federation or to German annexation. But Germany will not now attempt to annex, and thus the question is postponed to a later date.

The real danger has been, since Russia collapsed as a menace and Germany turned her back upon Bolshevism, such an accentuation of the Franco-German question as might lead to new invasions, and these in turn might lead to the destruction of order in Germany—the transformation of Bismarckian unity into the traditional German chaos. To put the thing briefly, the danger has been that politics might ruin economic recovery and the world war leave in its train consequences as fatal as those of the Thirty Years' War. We have been on the edge of this catastrophe many times. It was escapable only if Germany took her medicine and agreed to pay what was possible and beyond all question due. But it would seem we have escaped the last and acutest peril of all, which was incidental to the recent crisis and the proposed invasion of Ruhr.

Looking back now over the last two years, and even over the last seven, it seems to me one can quite fairly assume that the worst is over. A world which for more than four years fought and in the process became accustomed to the employment of force to settle all questions is becoming accustomed to something which if not peace is at least a far cry from the warfare of the summer of 1918. If there are smouldering fires in many quarters of Europe, almost without exception they seem to be dying down. Every winter lived through without general anarchy has been a long gain, for each succeeding harvest has been more nearly sufficient to feed the hungry mouths, and we have already lived through three.

Even now a refusal of Germany to pay or disarm would lead to a renewal of the worst of all the dangers. But the recent crisis demonstrated that such a refusal, instead of dividing the Allies would unite them. German defiance at London led to that ultimatum which was but the first step in the direction of the occupation of the Ruhr. Rome and London, even Washington, manifested not the smallest inclination to support German resistance. The question of how much Germany could pay was then debatable; the obligation of Germany to pay and the certainty that force would be applied if resistance continued, both were disclosed in the progress of the debate.

In my judgment this was the worst crisis of all. Economic and industrial reconstruction were in more deadly peril in the last days of April than at any time since the Bolshevist attack before Warsaw collapsed. Occupation of the Ruhr would have proven the last straw, so far as the strained and shaken structure of European industry was concerned, and that decay of Europe which so many European writers have announced as already in progress would have been inescapable. But having surmounted this crisis, it seems to me Europe has adequately demonstrated its determination to live and its will to avoid supreme disaster.

Questions Remaining Are Troublesome but Less Vital

To-day there is a Polish question, a central European question, an Eastern question in a new and aggravated form. Real adjustment in Europe will be materially delayed precisely as long as Franco-German relations retain their present character. As long as the French believe that the Germans are plotting a new attack and the Germans believe France is seeking the disruption and ruin of Germany all restoration of normalcy will be delayed. We shall continue to have incidents, denunciations on either side of the Rhine. The Polish problem will add to the bitterness.

On the other hand, provided Germany continues to pay and to disarm, a gradual decline in French apprehension may be expected. And Germany must pay and disarm, since only on those terms can she hope with Anglo-Italian support to escape a new French invasion. For twenty years Germany will be helpless to resist a French invasion and her single hope of escaping it must be compliance with that programme which Great Britain and Italy accept as a minimum. France can be restrained only by the desire to avoid a break with her European allies and with a friendly America. But such restraint can be applied only if Germany meets her obligations.

Great Britain, and the United States as well, desires to avoid any new economic disturbance such as would follow any fresh military action. A vast majority of Frenchmen are equally anxious to avoid a new campaign, with all the additional burdens which it would place upon French finance. German defiance and bad faith in the past have weakened the influence of moderate men in all countries. They have made British and American efforts to preserve peace exceedingly difficult. But the recent crisis clearly demonstrated that beyond a certain point moderation in France, Britain and the United States would be disarmed and Germany would be left to her fate.

Since Germany has now met her first payments we are assured of a period of six months during which reparations will cease to trouble the world. Even disarmament in that time is hardly likely to become an acute issue. And a gain of six months for peace at this time is of almost incalculable value. Grave as are certain of its aspects, I cannot believe that the Upper Silesian question will be permitted to plunge Europe into new chaos or permanently halt economic reconstruction—and aside from the Upper Silesian question the European calendar is at the moment singularly and hopefully clear of cases of immediate importance—far freer than at any moment since the Archduke met his death at Serajevo.

After all the long delays and the almost innumerable list of disturbances it is plain that business still waits upon the restoration of confidence, and credits will not come until politics have given way to economics. That we shall have any sudden and far reaching transformation seems to me unlikely. This war has been a slow disease, and recovery will be slow in its turn. Relapses are to be expected, new crises for the moment appearing to threaten fresh chaos. Nevertheless it seems to me that henceforth the improvement will be steady and that the benefits for the United States will begin to be felt decisively before the year is out.

D. A. R. Opens Historic Putnam House As Disabled Soldiers' Vacation Home

Putnam House, headquarters of the D. A. R. in Greenwich, Conn., which is being used as a vacation home for disabled soldiers. The townsfolk in general have joined the Daughters in extending hospitality.

A CHARMING old English courtesy which is sometimes revived to-day is to extend the freedom of the city to distinguished guests. The disabled soldiers who are being entertained in groups of six by the Daughters of the Revolution of Greenwich, Conn., feel that the town's people have literally given them the "freedom of the city" and more.

The idea of giving a two weeks' holiday to disabled men originated with the committee of ten women who arranged a concert that netted the society $800. Mrs. Grace Paush and Mrs. J. T. Weir, who are among the moving spirits of the enterprise, extended, through the Federal Board for Vocational education an innovation to men in training who the officers of the board felt were most in need of a holiday.

No more suitable place for entertaining veterans of the world war could be found than the D. A. R. headquarters in Greenwhich, a quaint two story house on Putnam avenue, which is part of the old Post road from New York to Boston. It was once the Knapp Tavern and for a short time the headquarters of Gen. Washington's staff. To-day it is known as the Putnam House, in memory of Israel Putnam, who, catching sight of the British redcoats in the mirror before which he was shaving, seized his musket, mounted his horse and galloped down the old stone steps at the back of the house to rouse the Minute Men.

Mrs. Adams Kelly, whose grandfather, Capt. John Reddington, fought in the Revolution, organized the chapter of the Greenwich Daughters of the Revolution in 1897. In 1902 public spirited citizens, headed by Adams Kelly, raised a fund to buy the Putnam House as a permanent home for the chapter. The old tavern is nearly 250 years old, but judicious repairs have preserved its Revolutionary quaintness, and the furnishings are mainly heirlooms of Revolutionary days. When it was decided to use the old house for a vacation home for disabled soldiers a few modern conveniences were introduced for the pleasure and comfort of the boys.

The calendar of entertainments would turn the head of a debutante, and the list of hosts who have offered hospitality represents every leading citizen of Greenwich. There have been picnic suppers and clambakes, a day on a yacht and motor rides to the beach for a swim, besides daily dinners and luncheons. The moving picture houses have furnished season passes, and the hotels have extended hospitality.

Some of the people who are entertaining are Col. and Mrs. E. Marble, Miss Kent of the Kent House, Mrs. Leslie C. Bruce, Mrs. E. C. Wills, Mrs. Ogden Minton, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Richard M. Atwater, Jr., Mrs. Adnrenter, Mr. and Mrs. Francis K. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Heaton, Mrs A. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. W. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Abrahams, Mr. and Mrs. Coulter, Miss McCutcheon and Mr. and Mrs. A. Lillie.

One of the chief festivities to which the first group of boys were taken was the annual meeting of the grand council of the Woodcraft League of America, of which Ernest Seton Thompson is president and chief. Nature study hikes, conducted by experts such as G. Clyde Fisher and Dr. Frank Lutz of the Natural History Museum, took up the early hours of the afternoon, and there was a barbecue in charge of Major David P. Abercrombie.

The first group to be entertained were all from Lincoln Institute Vocation School, the second group are from the West Side Y. M. C. A., School of Mechanical Dentistry, the New York and St. John's Preparatory schools, and one man is in placement training as hotel clerk.

One of the interesting developments has been the change in the men's point of view under the mellowing influence of hospitality, fresh air, green fields and the quiet of the open country. One boy who has done a bit of thinking remarked that he guessed there would not be any Bolshevism among the ex-service men if the Government would send them all out into the country and teach them to work on the land.

Another man said: "The war took away most of my ideals, and I didn't care much what became of me since I got shot up, but this place has taught me there is something worth working for after all, and I mean to succeed in spite of my handicap."

What the D. A. R. of Greenwich are doing could easily be made part of the summer programme in many communities and give to the disabled ex-service men, many of whom are breaking down in training mentally and physically, the change which will help put them on their feet.

Any committee or individuals who wish to entertain disabled ex-service men should communicate with Frank W. Clayton, Recreation Division of the Federal Board for Vocational Education, 25 West Forty-third street, New York city.

Bradley's Reforms, Once Jests, Won Out

WHEN Copernicus told the world it revolved around the sun the public greeted him with a grand guffaw. Similarly was James A. Bradley, founder of Asbury Park, greeted when he said some day stockings, long sleeves and prohibition would become essential on the beach.

Unlike Copernicus, who died before the world had stopped laughing, Founder Bradley, as he was known, lived to see his predictions come true. He died the other day at the age of 92, at his home near the great stretch of sands and woodlands which he founded as a resort.

Conscientious in his endeavors to create a beach resort on the New Jersey sands which would be free from the saloons and the vulgarities common to his day, Founder Bradley was the butt of scoffs and laughter. Before prohibition was thought of, much less a reality, he attempted to practise his theories on the broad reach of boardwalk which he owned. And although he retired admitting his success was not then complete, he predicted that some day his prophecies would be fulfilled. Before his death he was able to see his statements of many years before come true.

Founder Bradley's Drastic Rules Proved No Bar to Popularity

In search of health for himself in 1870, Founder Bradley chanced upon the section in New Jersey which he later made into a great resort. A wilderness then, he set to work to transform it into a pleasure and health spot. Spending $150,000 for the 500 acres of woodland and the long strip of beach, he drained it, laid out the resort, and when at last it had become known it made him millions.

Although eccentric, or considered so then, Founder Bradley from the time he assumed control until he retired was absolute dictator of the resort. Despite his prohibition rules his restrictions on bathing costumes and his other strict regulations, New Yorkers were soon flocking to the popular New Jersey spot.

One of the first notices Founder Bradley posted when he opened his beach was the following:

MODESTY OF APPAREL
IS AS BECOMING
TO A LADY IN A BATHING SUIT
AS IT IS TO A LADY
DRESSED IN SILK AND SATIN.

The ban descended on bare knees and pink shoulders, an unheard of ruling up to that time. Women were compelled to appear stockinged and with sleeves, something the owner of the resort saw to himself. But this ruling was as nothing compared to restrictions which followed. No liquors were to be allowed in the place.

No liquors? Dear me! New Yorkers rolled their eyes and shrugged their shoulders. Impossible! No apostle like "Pussyfoot" Johnson had yet been heard of, and Carrie Nation's bottle smashing campaign out in Kansas was an unborn item of news. Goodness me, heavens and all that, Bradley's friends told him, none from New York would come to a place where one couldn't get a drink.

But Bradley was unyielding. To get a cottage at the beach the lessee must agree not to drink beer, vin rouge or anything that leaves an inviting smell on the breath. He hired boys to trail delivery wagons with an idea of discovering persons attempting to break the provisions of their contracts. And as soon as he trailed a guilty party out they went. Yet New Yorkers met at every hand at the beach; they continued to go. There was novelty about the place, something new, in fact, about every day. And Founder Bradley was the originator of it all.

One of His Last Notices Published For the Benefit of Anglers

At one time he insisted on having the druggists at his resort remain open only four hours on Sunday. When they refused he opened stores of his own and soon brought them to terms. Newsboys insisted on selling Sunday papers for ten cents when they should have been five. Bradley banished them from the place and went into the business himself.

Although offered fabulous sums for his beach holdings from individuals, Founder Bradley, when he retired, sold it to the municipality of Asbury Park for a nominal sum. One of the last notices he published was for the benefit of anglers:

"It is safe to say every angler on this pier hopes to catch a twenty pound bass. Long years ago a poet wrote the 'Pleasures of Hope.' No man ever went home from an honest fishing trip and abused his wife. Whenever the fisherman takes with him the black bottle he insults the memory of Izaak Walton, who reduced fishing to a pleasurable science."

The former "Little Father" and "Czar of Asbury Park," as he was known, lived to see through the dim veil of closing years his fondest hopes realized. Beaches not only about New York but over the entire United States are bone dry under the law. At Knickerbocker sands of pleasure one-piece bathing costumes are under ban and stockinged legs are required by police regulation.

Chasing a Bear

ANY one who has seen a bear walk knows how slowly he seems to move, and his run is a shuffling, lumbering gait that is comical to witness, unless he happens to be running after you. But a bear moves pretty fast notwithstanding appearances, and the grizzly, which looks to be clumsier than the brown or the black bear, can cover ground faster than the average horse.

An Arizona sheep rancher was riding in the foothills when he saw a big, awkward silvertip. He had a rifle, but was not certain he could kill the bear at one shot and knew that he would get into trouble if he missed. So he gave a regular cowboy yell and the bear started away in alarm.

The man gave chase, at the same time keeping up the piercing yell, and he soon noticed that the grizzly was getting further away. He continued the chase for nearly two miles, until the bear disappeared in the mountains, and he had not gained a foot.

In going back over the trail he noticed places where the bear had made jumps of fifteen or twenty feet, and the ground had been cut up by his claws so that it looked as if a harrow had been run over it.